

By Authority.

CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,
Nov. 14th, 1856.

FRIDAY, the 28th inst., being a National Holiday, will be observed as such, and all government offices will be closed.

By order of the Chamberlain.

H. A. NEILSON, Sec'y.

THANKSGIVING.

PROCLAMATION BY THE KING.

WE, KAMEHAMEHA, King of the Hawaiian Islands, hereby issue our Proclamation agreeably to former custom, that

WHEREAS, during the year now drawing to a close, we have enjoyed, as a people, numerous and great blessings; peace and tranquility have prevailed throughout our Islands; we have been not only free from dangers from abroad, but have continued to enjoy the most friendly assurances of protection in our independence from the most powerful governments in the world; although the times have been hard through the scarcity of money, and our people have suffered from a drought almost unparalleled, neither our agriculture nor commerce has entirely failed; both begin to revive; the crops in most places have been good; perhaps we have never enjoyed a year of more general health; our laws have been sustained; religion and education have been free and prosperous: For all of which numerous and invaluable blessings we owe, as a nation, a formal, general and heartfelt tribute of thanksgiving to the Almighty, on whose favor all prosperity, whether individual or national, depends.

We do, therefore, with the advice and consent of our Privy Council of State, designate and recommend Thursday, the 25th day of December next, as a day of general and public Thanksgiving to God, our Heavenly Father, throughout our Islands; and we earnestly invite all good people to a sincere and prayerful observance of the same.

Done at our Palace this 3rd day of November, A. D. 1856.

KAMEHAMEHA.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1856.

"The best course," says the *Advertiser*, "is always to stick close to truth, or keep silent." By a simple comparison of ideas this truism reminds us of the last couplet of a verse of the psalms as done into metre, most likely by Brady and Tate. Alluding to beatitudes, special mention is made of those

Who know what's right, not only so,
But always practice what they know.

In the very paragraph which contains the above original remark, there is put forth by our contemporary an assertion so devoid of veracity that we do not care to call it by its name in plain English. But it is no misapprehension. So many assertions and innuendoes bearing upon the same point have appeared previously that hardly a resident of any intelligence exists in Honolulu who has not taken the very small trouble necessary to discover how far Mr. Wyllie—the Minister alluded to—had any pecuniary interest in the success of Mr. Maxey or his Royal Hotel. The matter is so well understood everywhere, the office of the *Advertiser* not excepted, that to publish the documents that explain it, seems almost a work of supererogation. Nevertheless, by way of showing what a miserable bird the *Advertiser's* best fighting-cock becomes when its fine feathers are plucked, we give insertion to the correspondence. Strangers who have led a mercantile life will see through the thing at a glance, and wonder that an opposition paper, finding real abuse scarce, would condescend to open its batteries upon an object that no eye but its own can discover. Unfortunately for this community, there are very few men in it whose names carry so much weight in several important commercial centres, as does that of Mr. Wyllie. It is a recommendation of which many persons have, and more still have tried, to avail themselves. This fact, and that of his having correspondents in London through whom a remittance could be effected, will account for Mr. Maxey's having sought and obtained the following letter:

By Mr. John Maxey.

HONOLULU, 28th Nov., 1856.

MY DEAR SIR—This is to be presented to you by Mr. John Maxey, who has left in his hands \$15,000 cash, to be remitted to you, for his use. He has sensibly resolved to take his passage in the brig "Okeanos," for Hong Kong, whence he will immediately proceed to England. As his funds will be remitted promptly via the United States, you are likely to be in funds before he reaches London; but if that, by any chance, should not be the case, you run no risk in advancing to him what cash he may require in anticipation of the remittance now announced.

Mr. Maxey visits England with mercantile views, and intending to return. I shall be grateful to you for any advice or assistance you may render to him.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours truly,

(Signed), R. C. WYLLIE.

Messrs. MATTHEWS & Co., King William St., London.

The second communication shows how just an estimate Mr. Maxey had formed of the value to him of an introduction by Mr. Wyllie, the goods shipped on his account having far exceeded the amount of his remittance through the obnoxious Minister. If any thing was wanting to make it clear that Mr. Wyllie was actuated only by a wish to oblige, it is supplied in the fact of the letter below being addressed in case of his absence to another responsible party, the object of the shippers being plainly to secure themselves for the advance made.

Robert C. Wyllie, Esq., or absent,

The Agent of the Hudson's Bay Company,

Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.

LONDON, 16th June, 1856.

DEAR SIR—With reference to what we wrote to you on 12th ultimo respecting shipments of goods on account of Mr. John Maxey, we now inclose bills of lading for the same per *Dona*, from Liverpool to your port, with the several tradesmen's bills of parcels, agreeably to the inclosed memoranda of cost and charges, amounting to £—

As arranged with Mr. Maxey, we request that on arrival you will take charge of the goods, holding them in the deposit of his agent, upon receiving the equivalent of £2,400, the amount of our advance under

their security, with interest on that sum at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum until the period of our realizing here the remittance you will please to make to us for our reimbursement.

We remain, dear Sir, your most obedient servants,
(Signed), MATTHEWS & CO.

The invoice is headed, "Memorandum of Cost and Charges on Goods shipped at Liverpool, per *Pons*, Eliot, Capt. W. Robinson, for Honolulu, consigned to R. C. Wyllie, Esq., for account and risk of John Maxey, Esq." Then follow particulars of the goods and prices, with charges, etc., according to the usual mercantile form, not omitting the "E. E." by way of caution. The document is dated and signed "London, 16th June, 1856, Matheson & Co." To observe upon the above exposition of facts would be to insult our readers, conversant as they are with the system under which remittances are made to places upon which good paper can seldom be obtained unless a man-of-war happens to be here with bills to negotiate.

A little higher up, too, the *Advertiser* failed to "stick close to truth." It says that in an article which appeared in our number of the 20th August, and to which we alluded last week, there is no more allusion to the law of 1854, "or to anything connected with this controversy than there is to the color of the man in the moon." And then indulging in his habit of making bare assertions it adds, "Had the existence of this law been remembered at the time the above article was penned it would have been proclaimed louder than the cock ever crowed for St. Peter's benefit." Gracious knows this is no task of our seeking, to be continually snubbing our younger brother and setting him right. Yet we cannot see him make himself so very *extré* without giving a hint. In that article we said, "Our correspondent will not allow that the law of the land is any rule for Mr. Maxey to go by. The law says, within certain boundaries you may keep hotels, but Mr. Castle will not concede that the parties charged with the execution of the law could have seen in this any 'legal' or 'moral' obligation by which Maxey had a right to expect a license to be used within those boundaries." And yet the *Advertiser* says we made no allusion to the law, or to anything connected with this controversy about the Sailor's Home. It is hard to understand how such a wanton assertion could have got into print. Lower down we added:

"So long as the Constitution reserves to the King and the House the sole power of repelling and amending, as well as of making laws, it will be dangerous for parties to advocate an interference with that exclusive right by an inferior branch or division of the government. If under the influence of zeal in the cause of the Sailor's Home an error has been committed, and a resolution passed involving a prospective act of antagonism between the Council and the Legislature, if a majority record a reference to the statute book and put upon record the particulars of a contemplated step beyond the powers of the Council, is the majority not justified in wiping its hands of all implication in the matter by rescinding the resolution before the moment of conflict arrives?"

And yet our contemporary says that this had no more to do with the law or the controversy than with "the color of the man in the moon," unless perhaps the article is read backwards, commencing at the end." And it must excuse us for saying that in that way it would appear to have taken up most of the topics upon which it has commented.

In the above extracts there would seem to be enough to satisfy any undemented man that we had the law of 1854 in view when we penned that article. We will now take the liberty of showing (having permission to do so) that whether or no we had that law in remembrance previous to the 5th of August last—twenty-five days before our remarks were written—we certainly had at and from that date. We happened to be in our place in the Privy Council when Mr. Wyllie proposed the following resolutions, and upon us it devolved to interpret the same, and we need hardly observe that nothing tends more to fix a thought or fact upon one's memory than to first to possess yourself of it and then render it into another language, the idiom of which has nothing in common with that from which it is translated. Here follows Mr. Wyllie's resolution, which he withdrew when he found that the majority in the Council was disposed to deal with the subject in another way. Having, as we think with reason, some little misgivings as to our contemporary's powers of perception we italicize a few words:

"Resolved, That whereas no detriment whatever has resulted to the Sailor's Home Society from the traffic of the Royal Hotel, and whereas its suppression besides entailing a ruinous loss to Mr. Maxey, would injure the Treasury to the extent of one thousand dollars, the Resolution of the 21st May, 1855, is hereby rescinded, it being in conflict with a previous Resolution of the Privy Council, and also with a positive enactment of law."

After that we presume it will not be contended that the Council acted on the 5th August, 1856, without remembering what the Legislature had done. Nor will many readers believe that we wrote our remarks of the 30th August in that state of obliviousness contemplated by the *Advertiser* when it says:

"Had the existence of that law been remembered at the time the above article was penned, it would have been proclaimed louder than the cock ever crowed for St. Peter's benefit."

In connection with the above Resolution Mr. Wyllie introduced another, the two being intended to operate together towards the settlement of the question then in hand. We do not insert the following so much on account of its immediate bearing upon the subject before us, as to show the *Advertiser* that the man against whom all its strength has been exhausted was the very individual who proposed that courteous measure towards the Trustees of the Sailor's Home, the non-observance of which was so strongly commented on in their Memorial presented to the King in Council on the 2d instant. The italics are again used to prevent misapprehension from a peculiarity which seems to attach to the *Advertiser*:

"Resolved, That the Council being now free to discuss and consider fairly, justly and impartially, what is incumbent upon the King's government, a select committee be appointed to take evidence upon and to report upon the conflicting obligations arising out of the promise made to Mr. Maxey before he built the Royal Hotel, and arising out of the Resolution of the 21st May, 1855, of which a copy was passed to the Sailor's Home Society, and that the memorial of the latter and the petition of the former be handed to such special committee in order that they may report to the Minister of the Interior upon the facts as stated by both, after reference to the two parties, and that the said Minister be empowered to do what is just, fair and impartial in the matter."

Remember that was Mr. Wyllie's motion, the person who has been accused of hurrying the thing through with such indecent haste that the Secretary of the Council was neither notified to attend nor waited for; the person who, urged by a pecuniary interest of his own, had been ear-gunning all the members to settle the thing for good and all

that morning—to leave nothing open for further action; the man who wanted the license to be secured before the government had all the facts "fully" before it. Hereafter, perhaps, when the *Advertiser* ventures to make new assertions, its readers may be inclined to ask, Which end of the stick have you got hold of this time?

In conclusion, we will here give a communication from Mr. Maxey, upon the information transmitted with which we have been able to prepare these remarks.

To the Editor of the *Polynesian*:

SIR—It appears to me the editor of the *P. C. Advertiser* is determined to mislead the people in his leading article of last Thursday. He says, how much influence he brought to bear to secure the decision of the question whether a license should be granted or not, from the fact that one of His Majesty's Ministers had a pecuniary interest at stake in it. It is not true that Mr. Wyllie or any other party had or has any interest in the Royal Hotel by itself. In December, '55, I deposited with Mr. Wyllie the amount of \$—, which that gentleman kindly offered to transmit to his bankers in London on my account. On my arriving in England, I called on Messrs. M. & Co., and was most kindly received, and informed by them that through Mr. Wyllie's strong recommendation I might draw upon them to the amount of £— over my own funds, the account of which sum they would transmit to Mr. Wyllie to collect from him when convenient, interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, security to rest upon the consignment of all the goods to Mr. Wyllie.

Mr. Wyllie has been the kindest friend I ever had on earth, and I most solemnly declare never made one dollar by me, although I have asked him several times to charge me commissions on the transaction, but he has always most positively declined, and stated that he would bring me all the news and letters that I sent him, and I send you all the documents connected with the affair, to enable you to set the matter in a true light before the public. I remain, your most obedient servant.

JOHN MAXEY.

Honolulu, Nov. 14th, 1856.

The Chinese Ball.

The ball at the Court House on Thursday night last, given to their Majesties the King and Queen by the Chinese merchants of Honolulu and Lahaina, was the most splendid affair of its kind that has ever occurred in Honolulu. No expense or pains were spared in the decorations of the house, and in the variety and quality of the refreshments provided. We have heard but one opinion expressed by those present, (which includes all Honolulu and his wife,) and that was that the Celestials have out-shone the "outside barbarians" in late making for the nonce. Among the distinguished guests present we noticed, besides their Majesties, H. R. H. the Premier, Princess Victoria Kaihuanu; H. R. H. Prince L. Kamehameha, their Excellencies the Ministers of Foreign Relations and of the Interior, John H. Esq., M. P. C., the Commissioners of France and of the United States, all the resident Consuls; Captain Harvey and the officers of H. B. M.'s ship *Havannah*, Captain Gilmour and officers of H. L. M.'s ship *Embuscade*; and many others of the elite of Honolulu.

The ball was opened at 20 minutes to 9, Her Majesty having honored Mr. Yung Sheng by selecting him for her partner in the first cotillon; the King dancing with Mrs. Gregg. The other couples were the Princess Kaihuanu and the Commissioner of H. L. M.; Prince Kamehameha and Mrs. C. R. Bishop; the Minister of Foreign Relations and Miss Hamilton; Capt. Harvey, R. N., and the lady of the Danish Consul; Captain Gilmour and Mrs. H. Rhodes; Mr. Afong, and Mrs. W. C. Parker; Mr. Ahee and Mrs. Cowly and Mr. Gee Woo and Mrs. Aldrich.

From that time till a late hour the amusement was continued with great gusto, and after the ladies had retired, the "wee short hours ayant the twal" were saluted with the assurance that they "wouldn't go home till morning" and indeed the company did not separate till between 3 and 4 o'clock.

The following are the names of the Committee of Arrangements: Messrs. Afong, Yung Sheng, C. P. Samsing, Utai & Ahee, Ahee, and Afong. Mine host of the French Hotel furnished the most substantial dishes, which to say, is sufficient guarantee of their quality. As two of the items we may mention that there were six whole sheep roasted, and 150 chickens. The beautiful pastry was got up by the Chinese themselves, as were the decorations, which were in the most flowery style of the Flowery Kingdom.

The greatest curiosity was a lantern and moving panorama of scenes in Chinese story, the motion of which was produced from the heat of the lamp. Horses galloped, men fought, women wagged their tails—all in paper. This curiosity, we understand, has been presented to His Majesty. Over the principal inside door of the ball room was a beautiful transparency, with the words "Abba Nui," surrounded with flowers tastefully arranged. Directly opposite was a raised dais, with seats for their Majesties, backed by the Hawaiian coat-of-arms, the figures of a life-size and illuminated. The colors of all nations were tastefully arranged about the Hall, and here the Chinese and Hawaiian ensign on each side of their Majesties' seat.

The cost of the ball, as we were informed, amounted to not far from \$3,700. The opportunity to display their attachment and loyalty towards the Sovereign of the country in which they reside, and bear so high a name for regularity in their business habits and general observance of the laws, was seized on by the Chinese merchants in a way that will be long remembered by all those who had an opportunity to observe it. In the general arrangements, and particularly those connected with the reception of the guests, they evinced a tact from which future entertainers may take a hint.

We understand that their Majesties intend giving a ball on the 26th, to celebrate the National Holiday, as well as to receive those numerous residents who have had the honor of entertaining the King and Queen since their marriage. These reunions are always provocative of good-will and unanimity among those who reside under the King's protection, and help to cement a kindly feeling which is as valuable as it is pleasant.

In conformity with a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Agricultural Society, the Managers have leased the spacious room over Dr. G. P. Judd's Dispensary, and under the superintendence of Mr. J. E. Chamberlain it will be occupied as a Museum for all that is curious and interesting in the history of these islands, and valuable in connection with Agriculture and Science. It is a very long while that people have been talking of such an undertaking, and it is to be hoped that all who can contribute to its success will do so. An advertisement declaring the intention of the Board of Managers appears elsewhere in to-day's paper.

The funeral of the late Mrs. John H. (Sara) Hiram will take place this afternoon at 3 o'clock, from Millard, the residence of the Princess V. Kaihuanu. Friends and the public are invited to attend.

The valuable real estate on the corner of Nuanu and Marine streets, was offered at auction by A. P. Everett, on Tuesday last, in three separate lots. But one lot was knocked down—the corner one—at the low price of \$2500, to Mr. Michel.

The sale of the "Varieties" lot on King St., advertised to take place on Monday next, is postponed until further notice.

We would call the attention of our readers to the notice in another column, of the Annual Meeting of the Sailor's Home Society, at the Bethel, next Monday evening.

Correspondence.

Tahitian Missions.

To the Editor of the *Polynesian*:

SIR—Having, in your former numbers, invited free discussion, and coming from a country where people are so generally free to differ, without offense, I submit the following to your columns.

Men of bold and open assaults are generally ready to do justice, where rashness has encroached upon right; while no wrong need look for a remedy to that most deadly of all oppressors—the non-committal man. I propose to show that most, if not all, of the statements made by the "Westminster Review" in your long extract of last November, relating to Missions on Tahiti, are without any foundation; and that some restitution (at least by this explanation) is due to that species of property, moral character, which is of some account to all. I beg to premise that I meddle with nothing but bare facts in this communication, nor commit myself to any procedural or moral conclusions.

1st. The Protestant missionaries are charged with having "made much of the drunken *Pumare*, because she resided nearly twenty years, and never heard of drunkenness being attributed to her, by foreigner or native, still less of the many acts necessary to constitute a character. Had it been applied to her father, or husband, or any other person, it would have been questioned; but they not being church members, the charge would have lost its value with an avowed enemy of missions. His elaborate opposition to the principle of commencing proselytism with the high instead of the low, was never yet attempted to be practiced by any class of operators, whether religious or scientific, among the heathen tribes where the common sense of all, and this writer, perceives its impracticability.

2nd. The missionaries are charged with living in handsome dwellings of coral, amidst groves and lawns. They have been chargeable with living amidst the most beautiful scenery of Nature, for they could not live on Tahiti, and yet have been charged with the same. The houses were of coral rock, not true; they are plain structures of plaster and lath, in every instance, on Tahiti, and on all the other islands, with one exception at Eimeo, of a frame building. The only coral erection among them is an octagon chapel there.

3d. "They take care their children shall not learn a word of the native language—perpetrate no intercourse with the natives—and have but high Latin and English." The writer of these lines affirms that he was familiarly acquainted with the habits of every family, and that he never knew one in which the native language was not perfectly attained at the earliest age, and before the English; and that in one of them, of numerous children, the intercourse between them and the parents was conducted in native, exclusively, from infancy. As to the "high Latin and English," he never saw any structure worthy the name of a wall, which consists universally of sticks lashed together, or of rude coral stones heaped up to three and four feet in height, designed to keep out, not in, but *four legs*,—and these are the walls the reviewer pathetically describes as "having destroyed brotherly love and social harmony which have taken flight forever." I never found a house closed, nor a house door, to any of our ever chose to approach, at any time; of course, the common law of the house was observed, and expected to be, as it would be required by all alike, whether there or here, missionary or merchant, that discouraged large groups of idling and noisy people from accumulating about the doors, to the inconvenience of family affairs, without errand or object.

The only slight resemblance to the lawns and high walls referred to, exists in the then mission-school establishment for their families, at the island of Eimeo, where a good substantial coral wall was built up—about not high enough to exclude night thieves, which the tutor complained of taking many of his poultry—it was by no means sufficient to keep out natives if they wished to get in, though it was intended to prevent the school boys from going out, and was a public school lawn, very smooth and very green, was there, visible, for the salutary purpose of juvenile gambols, whose area was about one acre.

4th. A barbarous hostility to flowers is charged upon them. Instead of flowers being numerous, as represented, they are very scarce in Tahiti; those of foreign origin are seldom retained, any gratifying to the eye. Only three kinds have been available among the people for common and frequent use—viz. the tierce, bar and hutehewa—the two first being principally in requisition—the first only cultivated, and which I do not remember ever missing in the mission gardens. The free use of all of them has not been interfered with since somewhere about 1824. The garden of the school lies within the previous space of that year and 1829, when they were interdicted as head-dresses, which appears on the surface a paradox, while in the place of it a paradox of a much more knotty character existed, namely, how to tolerate a sign without admitting the thing signified. Nearly the entire population was then under Christian proselytism, and the missionaries were the only ones who were not of that persuasion, and who were not of that persuasion.

5th. Another misrepresentation is the interjection of a district strife and collision, and have involved the peace of the island—an appeal to muscular strength succeeding a triumph. So thoroughly unwarranted is this misrepresentation, the apparently harmless life could not be raised in the air without requiring the chief perceptibly to interfere, at a time when the peace of the island had long been untroubled—not far from the French occupation.

6th. The suppression of the lamented *Opi* Festival. About the first that occurred after their revival was in 1832, a brief account of which will show how worthy they are of a lament. Haulia, a chief of Haulia, after great efforts to suppress the festival, was the occasion of the first execution was to Bora-bora, an island 30 miles to leeward, accompanied by a multitude of all description, who, on their arrival, joined with the islanders in digging an immense pit to bake their bread fruit, which they gathered in vast quantities—sufficient for three months stationary encampment, only adding an equal supply of pigs and fowls, their huts were built, and here the feast and drink and sports of the festival to the full capability of the animal nature; and stimulated by the wild and exciting dance, whose particulars are not understood by our ears in those words, neither were they made for white paper explanation. After three months of this glorious absorption, they returned—the vessel was water-logged and barely reached the shore, and the chief, who had been the occasion of the first execution was to Bora-bora, an island 30 miles to leeward, accompanied by a multitude of all description, who, on their arrival, joined with the islanders in digging an immense pit to bake their bread fruit, which they gathered in vast quantities—sufficient for three months stationary encampment, only adding an equal supply of pigs and fowls, their huts were built, and here the feast and drink and sports of the festival to the full capability of the animal nature; and stimulated by the wild and exciting dance, whose particulars are not understood by our ears in those words, neither were they made for white paper explanation.

7th. The interjection of their songs. The character of these has always been the concrete essence of national morals. I once made a strenuous effort to obtain in Tahiti a quantity of their songs, and employed a friend, born on the island and familiar with all the nuances of phraseology, to collect them. The reply, as the result of his exertions, was that, "he had given up the pursuit, as he could not move in advance without getting deep in filth"—though we might regret that much brilliant was lost in the mire.

It is on such misdeeds as these that censorious and unimpartial justice designate Christian Evangelists as bigoted and ignorant sectaries, and complain of their presumption in going to "root out the faith by which the natives have lived, and thrusting on them another which can never be as congenial to them." He says, "there is a faith at the root of cannibalism," and calls it a pretty strong confidence which led them forth to impose on the most uneducated and ignorant natives, and tastes of a very strong minority at the expense of a majority against all natural influences, and concludes every mission, on account of want of success in this universal havoc, "a complete failure," chiefly because they began with the high instead of the low class, and did not allow them to do as they pleased, and had always been accustomed; while the proof of failure appears to be in the great majority remaining heathen to this day. Is it possible this writer can himself name the name of him, whose commission to his leading Apostle, and through him to every successive teacher, ran in these words, on sending him to the heathen world, "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light; and from the power of Satan unto God." If success in a quantity of things, and a personal and personal justification of the object, were necessary to constitute a missionary, and where are the churches established by Apostolic hands? Only the shadow of one of them remains; they have perished through the same devastating causes as those in ever active operation everywhere, "the natural influences;" but the ashes of what was once a quantity of things, and a personal and personal justification of the object, were necessary to constitute a missionary, and where are the churches established by Apostolic hands? 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